

IN THE CLAIMS

Each claim of the application is set forth below with a parenthetical notation immediately following the claim number indicating the claim status. The Examiner's entry of the claim amendments under Section 1.121 is respectfully requested.

1. (ORIGINAL) An antenna comprising:
 - a top plate comprising a plurality of contiguous planar conductive regions, wherein adjacent ones of the plurality of conductive regions define a slot therebetween;
 - a ground plane spaced apart from and substantially parallel to the top plate;
 - a plurality of legs extending from the top plate toward the ground plane, wherein the plurality of legs is equal in number to the plurality of conductive regions, and wherein each one of the plurality of legs is electrically connected to the top plate;
 - a feed conductor;
 - wherein at least a first pair of oppositely disposed legs of the plurality of legs is connected to the feed conductor; and
 - wherein at least a second pair of oppositely disposed legs of the plurality of legs is connected to the ground plane.
2. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 further comprising a substrate, and wherein the ground plane and the feed trace are disposed on the substrate, and wherein the feed trace is electrically isolated from the ground plane.
3. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 further comprising a region of dielectric between the top plate and the ground plane.
4. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 3 wherein the region of dielectric comprises an air dielectric.
5. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of conductive regions comprises a closed planar figure having boundaries selected from between straight lines and curves.
6. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of conductive regions comprises a sector of a circle.

7. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of conductive regions comprises a rectangle.

8. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 wherein the plurality of conductive regions are capacitively coupled to the ground plane.

9. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of legs extends from the slot defined between two adjacent conductive regions.

10. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of legs extends from one of the plurality of conductive regions.

11. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 wherein a material of the top plate and the plurality of legs comprises phosphor bronze.

12. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 wherein the plurality of conductive regions are spaced substantially equidistant from a central axis of the antenna.

13. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legs are spaced substantially equidistant from a central axis of the antenna.

14. (ORIGINAL) An antenna comprising:
a conductive plate defining a plurality of slots therein extending from a periphery toward a center region of the plate and defining a slot edge thereat, wherein the plurality of slots segregate the plate into a like plurality of contiguous regions;
a ground plane spaced apart from and substantially parallel to the plate;
a signal feed;
a plurality of conductors equal in number to the number of regions, wherein each one of the plurality of conductors extends from one of a region and a slot edge in a direction perpendicular to the plate;
a first set of the plurality of conductors connected to the ground plane; and
a second set of the plurality of conductors connected to the signal feed.

15. (ORIGINAL) The antenna of claim 14 wherein the slot edges are equidistantly disposed relative to a center antenna axis of the antenna.

16. (WITHDRAWN) A method for forming an antenna, comprising:
providing a conductive blank having a generally polygonal shape;

forming a plurality of slit pairs in the blank, wherein each slit of the plurality of slit pairs extends from a periphery of the blank in a direction of a center region of the blank, and wherein each slit pair defines a tab therebetween, and wherein the tab comprises an edge connected to the blank; and

bending each tab from a plane of the blank, along the edge connected to the blank.